

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of processing a glass substrate for a magnetic disk, the glass substrate containing alkali ions, the method comprising the steps of:
processing the glass substrate by the use of a first alkali ion having a first ion radius greater than the smallest ion radius of the smallest alkali ion among the alkali ions contained the glass substrate; and
subsequently processing the glass substrate by the use of a second alkali ion having a second ion radius greater than the first ion radius of the first alkali ion.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
a first molten salt containing sodium nitrate is used as a first processing agent for supplying the first alkali ion, and
a second molten salt containing potassium nitrate is used as a second processing agent for supplying the second alkali ion.
3. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
the glass substrate is made of a glass containing 58-75 weight % SiO_2 , 5-23 weight % Al_2O_3 , 3-10 weight % Li_2O , and 4-13 weight % Na_2O .
4. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
the glass substrate has a thickness within a range of 0.6 mm or less.
5. A method of manufacturing the glass substrate by using the processing method claimed in claim 1.
6. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein:
at least a magnetic layer is formed on the glass substrate.